GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3358
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000
HIV VIRUS
RAJIV PRATAP RUDY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scientific evidence of the existence of HIV-Virus; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two of the Indian Council of Medical Research`s (ICMR`s) institutes namely National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune an National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases (NICED), Calcutta are working on HIV related research.Molicular epidemiological studies carried out by NARI on identification of HIV sub-types in India for the past 7 years have indicated predominance of HIV sub-type `C`. Studies carried out at NICED have also shown the pre-dominance of HIV sub-type `C`.

HIV infection is identified in blood by detecting antibodies, gene sequencing or viral isolation.These facts are as reliable as any for detecting any other viral infections.